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WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES

(Digested from Reports of State Extension Directors)

SUMMARY No. 33

OCTOBER 24, 1942

ALASKA (Summer of 1942).-- Of 600 members enrolled in 4-H Club work for 1942, 350 completed garden project, 85 foods, 75 clothing, 20 livestock, 10 poultry, 6 fishing. Throughout Territory effort was made to stress importance of Food-for-Freedom production program. During summer 22 communities were visited to organize Victory Garden clubs, give talks and demonstrations on different phases of garden work, hold training meetings for leaders, and plan recreational and community activities for members.

Excellent reports received from various communities on progress of Victory gardeners.

Five exhibits held at fairs in Anchorage, Matanuska Valley, Tanana Valley, and Haines. Displays included lettuce, cabbage, potatoes (6 varieties), turnips, carrots, radishes, chard, spinach, beets, peas, cauliflower, beans, onions, garlic, parsnips, celery, and hothouse tomatoes. Canned products exhibited consisted of most of these vegetables and a variety of fruits. Educational booths on gardening, canning, and 4-H organization were set up. Different civic organizations provided \$330 in defense stamps as prizes and awards.

Club members have collected 6,000 pounds scrap iron, 5,100 pounds rubber, purchased \$1,000 in bonds and defense stamps. Scrap metal collected was sold in Seattle and funds forwarded to Red Cross. First aid or nursing courses taken by 124 members.

DELAWARE (October 1).-- All agents participated in completing selection of neighborhood leaders and in cooperating with State extension neighborhood volunteer committee in sending out first series of letters to inform rural people of proposed functions of volunteer neighborhood leader system.

Cost and management data on important canning crops were gathered by truck crops specialist to be used in planning production for 1943.

County agents and supervisors devoted much time to problem of securing adequate storage for soybeans and meeting problems of marketing. Agents working closely with AAA officials have located emergency storage points for at least a part of the crop.

Agents participated in all meetings of county war boards and served as secretaries.

Cooperation given local committees in each county in preparation and holding of Victory Harvest Shows, which were largely attended.

All 4-H Clubs planning active participation in State Salvage Harvest campaign during October.

HAWAII (October 10).-- To conserve ship space, revised production plans adopted in recent weeks should result in substituting locally grown food for certain items formerly shipped from mainland. Plans submitted for relocation of many small farmers, who were removed from their lands for military reasons, on other and better land so they may resume their former operations as producers of vegetables and fruits.

Reports indicate increased production of swine in Hawaii due to large amount of garbage available from various Army camps located on the island. Most hog raisers are keeping more sows, which will result in an increased pork supply to become available within next 8 to 12 months.

Held meeting of all dairymen on Oahu to explain the general order of September 10 freezing all dairy labor. This order makes it impossible for any employee of a dairy to leave without a release from his employer or the director of labor control. This should prove beneficial to the dairy industry, as labor has been its greatest problem in recent months.

A total of 238 persons attended 6 meetings on Americanization. .

In one county 200 farmers were assisted in obtaining permits to pulp coffee during certain specified blackout hours.

On Kauai, agents met with representatives of rice growers and wholesalers to discuss methods of handling 1942 crop, and a proposition whereby growers will be given cash for their crops with no risks for any losses on a falling market.

In cooperation with Transportation, Fuel, and Food Administration on Maui, Extension brought together plantation representatives, vegetable retailers, and farmer peddlers.

Development of community leaders undertaken by all agents on Oahu; home agents stressing clothing construction.

Demonstrations given in killing, dressing, and preparation of rabbits for food. Presence of many back-yard rabbit projects indicates that a cheap source of meat is being raised by many families.

Agents on Hawaii Island are trying to show ways in which women can use powdered foods, distributed by the Social Welfare Department.

INDIANA (October 15).-- Indiana now has 16,471 delineated neighborhoods with 31,098 selected leaders - one man and one woman in each neighborhood consisting of from 8 to 12 families. Leaders have assisted in following

programs: Salvage, 59 counties have completed programs; fire prevention, 54 counties have reported progress and all counties have started fire-prevention program; USO drive, 12 counties reporting; bond drive, reported by 8 counties.

Victory Garden Harvest Show at Indiana State Fair held September 26 and 27, with estimated 8,000 attending. Exhibit of Extension Service an important feature of the show.

In 14 counties, 570 leaders attended garden storage meetings conducted by extension horticulturist. Two types of storage demonstrated - dirt storage which is quite commonly used, and one involving use of tile.

In fire-prevention program 175,000 fire-hazard check lists have been distributed through neighborhood leaders, and in some cases through public schools. Practically all counties have held meetings of county fire-prevention committees. Plans made for holding of special fire-prevention programs in connection with farm bureaus, home economics clubs, 4-H Clubs, and other groups. Within short time suggestions will be furnished agents and county committees for encouragement of programs and other activities during winter months. Three news stories released during month, and two radio broadcasts made.

The annual extension conference held October 6-9, was designed to assist in re-aligning services available from Extension Service so that greatest possible assistance can be given to farm people in war effort. Conference program centered on What Adjustments Should Be Made in Extension During the Next Year? and Using the Neighborhood Leadership System Most Effectively.

KANSAS (October 12).-- In Ellis County, a sudden freeze on September 24, 3 weeks earlier than usual, made necessary immediate harvesting of thousands of acres of sorghums before loss of their leaves and loss of feeding value of crop. Through efforts of county agent cooperating with labor office, boys from the high schools and from the college at Hays were released for work on farms and in 3 days the sorghum crop was harvested. Similar activities have been carried on in practically all western Kansas counties where emergency labor was needed to save valuable feed.

Flax seed and soybean seed saving and storage campaign initiated. Circular, Kansas Soybeans and Flax To Meet Wartime Needs, prepared and distributed. Exhibit of castor beans, flax, and soybeans prepared and shown at two State fairs. Commercial companies provided large number of exhibits of industrial uses of these crops.

Series of conservation operations conferences planned for November to reach every county, with full discussion by farmer leaders of conservation objectives in wartime production for 1943.

County plans of work developed in all organized counties stressing importance of adequate farm accounting for income tax reports, development of long-time farm plans to meet war goals, and lease agreements giving consideration to war effort. Farm account information sheet developed from which county agents can take off essential information relating to farming in their counties, and to be used by State in preparing type of farming area and county reports.

Sawmill census for War Production Board completed. Will be used in promoting of home-grown native lumber for farm building and repair.

Spot check on home food production completed and report being compiled. As part of conservation program groups of women being given instruction in making coats and suits of new and used material. Number of fine garments being made from women's coats and men's suits. Refresher courses in first aid and home nursing conducted in three districts. Agents taking courses will go back to their counties and give instruction to home health and sanitation leaders. Work will be publicized, also names of leaders who will act in an advisory capacity for neighborhood needs.

4-H Club programs at county fairs stressed contributions to war effort. Conferences and discussions held to revise present 4-H Club program and develop suitable emergency 4-H project for coming year.

KENTUCKY (October 15).-- Farm-management specialists in State have learned of many ingenious methods and devices in effort to conserve labor. State-wide canvass made to get detailed information on outstanding examples, and information is being passed on to other farmers by use of press, radio, and other available methods. Examples: One man found he could fill his 32-foot tobacco barn with one extra hand and a simple device quickly made on the farm. A 12-foot hay frame that would be idle until next summer made a self-feeder for feeding ear corn to the hogs on another farm. A manure spreader, loaded with ear corn, provided a quick way for farmer to spread ears on sod land for his hogs.

An excellent example of how a farmer can help to meet the difficulties of labor shortage is found on a 5-man farm in Green County. Two sons are in the armed service. The dairy herd is kept in full production, and usual acreage of feed and pasture is produced. He himself will spend more time in active work and his wife will have added duties. Two sons, 10 and 14 years old, have regular jobs, and a full load is carried by the tenant. A number of ideas have been worked out that are time and labor savers. A horse-drawn fertilizer distributor was made from an old automobile rear axle and a shaft drive for \$2.25 cash outlay. Although conservation, repairing, reclaiming, and careful upkeep on the farm have been carried out heretofore, the farmer says that certain jobs will now be left undone when they don't contribute directly to food production. The fence rows will go uncut, and he will discontinue clearing new land and old fields. Even the lawn will go unclipped except by calves and horses.

Through cooperation of Union County extension agent, county farm bureau, and State commissioner of welfare, 80 convicts from reformatory at Eddyville were made available to farmers. They were housed in former CCC camp and hired to farmers at fixed figure.

To save travel, county agent in Breckinridge County has planned series of community meetings where farmers can sign applications for payment in ACP program, place orders for fertilizers, sign up for war bonds, arrange for truck licenses, etc. There are 2,800 farms in county, many at considerable distances from the county seat. Through service of these meetings they will save several trips to town and thereby conserve tires and gasoline.